

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SOFIA 00833 221304Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 DHA-02 /042 W
-----230223Z 066259 /75

R 221157Z APR 77
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2761
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
KKARAMEMBASSY BUCHAREST 2156
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

UNCLAS SOFIA 0833

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PROP, CSCE, PFOR, BU
SUBJECT: A PRESS MISCELLANY FROM SOFIA

1. THERE HAS BEEN AN INCREASE OVER RECENT WEEKS IN OBJECTION-
ABLE COMMENTARY ABOUT THE US, GLORIFICATION ABOUT BULGARIA'S
COMPLIANCE WITH HELSINKI, AND COUNTER-ATTACKS AGAINST ANTICI-
PATED CHARGES TO THE CONTRARY. HERE ARE SOME SAMPLES OF
RECENT COMMENT.

2. OTECHESTVEN FRONT APRIL 11 SAID MANY AMERICANS HAVE COM-
PLAINED AGAINST UNFAIR ACCUSATIONS ABOUT HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLA-
TIONS IN EASTERN EUROPE AND CALLED ON THE ADMINISTRATION TO
TEND TO AMERICA'S OWN SHORTCOMINGS. QUOTING FROM A BOOK
"THE AMERICAN POLICE STATE" BY DAVID WISE, THE ARTICLE SAYS
THAT US AUTHORITIES MAINTAIN EXTENSIVE LISTS OF PEOPLE WHO
WILL BE SENT TO CONCENTRATIM CAVS IN CASE OF TROUBLE,
OPPONENTS OF THE AMERICAN POLICE STATE ARE "PROCESSED" AT
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PLACES SPECIALIZED FOR THIS PURPOSE, IN NORTH CAROLINA ALONE
THERE ARE MORE THAN 80 SUCH "CORRECTIONAL" INSTITUTIONS, AND
ALTOGETHER PRISON POPULATION OF "PEOPLE OPPOSING CAPITALIST
OPPRESSION" EXCEEDS ONE MILLION.

3. RABOTNICHESKO DELO APRIL 17 SAYS BULGARIA'S EXEMPLARY CSCE
RECORD INCLUDES CONCLUSION OF TEN AGREEMENTS TO ABOLISH

AND FOUR TO EASE VISA REQUIRMENTS. UNFORTUNATELY ALTHOUGH SOME WESTERN COUNTRIES ACCEPTED SUCH AGREEMENTS, FRANCE, THE UK, FRG AND ITALY TURNED IT DOWN. "THE UNPREJUDICED REALIZE THAT THE NON-VISA REGIME OF BULGARIA IS ONE OF THE MOST LIBERAL." AS FOR DIVIDED FAMILIES, THE COMPETENT BULGARIANS DISPLAYING "GOOD FAITH AND HUMANNES" HAVE IN THE LAST TWO YEARS RESOLVED THE GREAT MAJORITY OF REQUESTS FOR CONTACTS AND REUNION OF FAMILIES. "UNSATISFIED WERE ONQ A SMALL NUMBER OF REQUESTS, MOST OFTEN FILED BY NON-RETURNERS, POLITICAL AND COMMON CRIMINALS WITH SENTENCES PASSED BY BULGARIAN COURTS, WHO HAD LONG AGO LEFT AND FORGOTTEN THEIR COUNTRY, FAMILIES, AND RELATIVES BUT WHO NOW, AT SOMEONE ELSE'S SUGGESTION, APPEAL FOR 'HUMANITY AND COMPASSION' AND EXPRESS THEIR 'PARENTAL' OR 'FILIAL' AFFECTIONS."

4. THE SAME ARTICLE CHARGES THAT US EMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP LAWS DO NOT ALLOW ENTRY INTO THE COUNTRY OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PARTIES, EXCEPT WHEN THIS IS "IN THE AMERICAN INTEREST," WHICH IS A COMPLETE CONTRADICTION OF THE FINAL ACT OF HELSINKI. "PROBABLY IT WILL SOUND ANECDOTIC BUT A BULGARIAN CITIZEN WHO ASKS FOR A TRANSIT VISA FOR THE USA OR ENGLAND, FOR INSTANCE, EVEN IF HE WILL NOT LEAVE THE TRANSIT WAITING ROOM, MUST LIST ON THE FORM DATA ON HIS GRANDFATHER AND GRANDMOTHER, GRANDCHILDREN, SHOW QERE Y SERVED HIS MILITARY SERVICE, AND OF WHAT PUBLIC ORGANIZATION HE IS A MEMBER." PAPER ALLEGES THAT 36 REQUESTS FOR BULGARIAN VISITS TO "FRG, US AND OTHER COUNTRIES" WERE DENIED AND THAT 500 PEOPLE "DID NOT RECEIVE ANY ANSWER TO THEIR REQUESTS."

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5. WE NEGLECTED TO REPORT AN EDITORIAL IN RABOTNICHESKO DELO APRIL 6 WHICH EXPLAINED WHY BULGARIAN POLITICAL PATTERNS AND POLICIES ARE QUINTESENTIALLY BULGARIAN: "SUCH PATTERNS IN THE POLITICAL LIFE ARE THE KUITFUPCOOPERATION WITH THE BULGARIAN NATIONAL AGRARIAN UNION, THE UNINTERRUPTED ENHANCEMENT OF THE ROLE OF PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS IN THE SOCIAL MANAGEMENT . . . IN INTERNATIONAL POLICY, THESE ARE THE FRUITFUL AND UNFLINCHING EFFORTS FOR OUR OWN CONTRIBUTION IN SUBSTANTIATING THE PEACEFUL INITIATIVES OF THE CPSU AND THE USSR, FOR THE LARGE-SCALE AND SUCCESSIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF LENIN'S PRINCIPLES OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE BETWEEN COUNTRIES OF DIFFERENT SOCIAL ORDER."

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, PROPAGANDA, HUMAN RIGHTS, COLLECTIVE SECURITY, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SOFIA00833
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770141-0720
Format: TEL
From: SOFIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770428/aaaaaxzh.tel
Line Count: 110
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 07168ea0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2720340
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: A PRESS MISCELLANY FROM SOFIA
TAGS: PROP, PFOR, BU, US, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/07168ea0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009